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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please replace all prior listing of claims with the following claim set:

In the claims:

1. (currently amended) ~~In a computer system, a~~ A method for scheduling tasks, ~~said method~~ comprising:

    a)   a background task registering at least one registered service, ~~said~~ the background task invoked by a kernel of ~~said~~ the computer operating system in a dedicated pre-assigned time slice, ~~said~~ the computer operating system comprising ~~said~~ the background task and a foreground task, ~~said~~ the background task being scheduled independent from the operation of ~~said~~ the foreground task, ~~said~~ the background task for providing an execution presence and a data presence to each of the at least one ~~a~~ registered service;

    b)   ~~said~~ the background task ranking ~~said~~ the at least one registered service according to ~~the~~ requirements of ~~said~~ each of the at least one registered service; and

    c)   ~~said~~ the background task allocating ~~said~~ the execution presence and ~~said~~ the data presence accordingly to each of ~~said~~ the at least one registered ~~service~~ services such that each of ~~said~~ the at least one registered service ~~services~~ is given an opportunity to be scheduled in ~~said~~ the dedicated pre-assigned time slice.

2. (currently amended) A method as recited in Claim 1 further comprising the step of ~~said~~ the background task searching for ~~at least one said~~ one or more of the at least one registered service associated therewith.

3. (currently amended) A method as recited in Claim 1 wherein ~~said~~ the computer system is a portable electronic device.

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4. (currently amended) A method as recited in Claim 1 wherein ~~said~~ the data presence is an

AS-based global variable context.

5. (currently amended) A method as recited in Claim 1 wherein ~~said~~ the service is a system-

related activity.

6. (currently amended) A method as recited in Claim 1 wherein ~~said~~ the service is an

interrupt-related activity.

7. (currently amended) A method as recited in Claim 1 wherein ~~said~~ the service is a

background-related activity.

8. (currently amended) A method as recited in Claim 1 further comprising the step of

periodically repeating ~~said~~ the steps a) through c).

9. (currently amended) A method as recited in Claim 2 further comprising the step of

periodically repeating ~~said~~ the step of ~~said~~ the background task searching for at least one

service associated therewith.

10. (currently amended) A method for scheduling tasks comprising:

      a)   a task registering at least one registered service, ~~said~~ the task invoked by a

kernel of ~~said~~ the computer operating system in a dedicated pre-assigned time slice, ~~said~~ the

task for providing an execution presence and a data presence to ~~said~~ the registered service;

      b)   ~~said~~ the task ranking ~~said~~ the registered service according to the requirements

of ~~said~~ the registered service; and

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    c)   ~~said~~ the task allocating ~~said~~ the execution presence and ~~said~~ the data presence

accordingly to each of ~~said~~ the registered services such that each of ~~said~~ the registered

services is given an opportunity to be scheduled in ~~said~~ the dedicated pre-assigned time slice.

11. (currently amended) A method as recited in Claim 10 further comprising the step of ~~said~~

the task searching for at least one ~~said~~ the service associated therewith.

12. (currently amended) A method as recited in Claim 10 wherein ~~said~~ the computer system

is a portable electronic device.

13. (currently amended) A method as recited in Claim 10 wherein ~~said~~ the data presence is

an AS-based global variable context.

14. (currently amended) A method as recited in Claim 10 further comprising the step of

periodically repeating ~~said~~ the steps a) through c).

15. (currently amended) A method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising the step of

periodically repeating ~~said~~ the step of ~~said~~ the background task searching for at least one

service associated therewith.

16. (currently amended) A computer system comprising:

    a processor coupled to a bus;

    a memory unit coupled to ~~said~~ the bus having stored therein an operating system

executed by ~~said~~ the processor and a background task executed by ~~said~~ the processor;

wherein ~~said~~ the background task performs a method comprising:

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      a)   registering at least one registered service, ~~said~~ the background task

invoked by a kernel of ~~said~~ the computer operating system in a dedicated pre-assigned time

slice, ~~said~~ the computer operating system comprising ~~said~~ the background task and a

foreground task, ~~said~~ the background task independent from the operation of ~~said~~ the

foreground task, ~~said~~ the background task for providing an execution presence and a data

presence to a registered service;

      b)   ranking ~~said~~ the registered service according to the requirements of

~~said~~ the registered service; and

      c)   allocating ~~said~~ the execution presence and ~~said~~ the data presence

accordingly to each of ~~said~~ the registered services such that each of ~~said~~ the registered

services is given an opportunity to be scheduled in ~~said~~ the dedicated pre-assigned time slice.

17. (currently amended) A computer system as recited in Claim 16 wherein ~~said~~ the

background task further performs the step of searching for at least one ~~said~~ the service

associated with ~~said~~ the background task.

18. (currently amended) A computer system as recited in Claim 16 wherein ~~said~~ the

computer system is a portable electronic device.

19. (currently amended) A computer system as recited in Claim 16 wherein ~~said~~ the data

presence is an AS-based global variable context.

20. (currently amended) A computer system as recited in Claim 16 wherein ~~said~~ the service

is a system-related activity.

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21. (currently amended) A computer system as recited in Claim 16 wherein said the service
is an interrupt-related activity.

22. (currently amended) A computer system as recited in Claim 16 wherein said the service
is a background-related activity.

23. (currently amended) In a computer system, a method for scheduling tasks, said the
method comprising:

     a)   cycling through a set of pre-assigned time slices to schedule a set of tasks
comprising a background task and a foreground task, each of said the tasks assigned to one of
said the time slices wherein scheduling of said the background task is independent from the
scheduling of said the foreground task; and

     b)   scheduling execution of a service manager operating on said the background
thread wherein said the step b) comprises the step of:

          b1)   said the service manager scheduling a set of services that are registered
therewith for execution within its time slice, wherein said the set of registered services may
be dynamically updated; and

          b2)   said the service manager allocating a data presence to each of said the
set of services registered therewith.

24. (currently amended) A method as recited in Claim 23 wherein said the computer system
is a portable electronic device.

25. (currently amended) A method as recited in Claim 23 wherein said the data presence is
an AS-based global variable context.

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26. (currently amended) In a computer system having a number of foreground applications

executing, a method for scheduling tasks, ~~said~~ the method comprising ~~comprising~~:

      a)   a kernel of an operating system scheduling a plurality of tasks for execution on

~~said~~ the computer system within respective time slices, ~~said~~ the plurality of tasks being in a

static mode ~~in definition~~ and one of ~~said~~ the tasks being a service manager;

      b)   a plurality of applications dynamically registering with ~~said~~ the service

manager; and

      c)   ~~said~~ the service manager, when itself executing in its time slice, scheduling for

execution ~~said~~ the plurality of applications based in a priority, wherein applications are

scheduled for execution by ~~said~~ the service manager in a manner independent from any of

~~said~~ the foreground applications.

27. (currently amended) A method as recited in Claim 26 wherein ~~said~~ the plurality of

applications comprise a system service, an interrupt service and a background service.

28. (currently amended) A method as recited in Claim 26 wherein ~~said~~ the computer system

is a handheld computer system.

29. (currently amended) A method as recited in Claim 26 wherein ~~said~~ the step b) comprises

the step of ~~said~~ the service manager dynamically registering ~~actively discovering said~~ the

plurality of applications based on registration information associated therewith.

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